

**To:** Webster, Susan[webster.susan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Crossland, Ronnie  
**Sent:** Thur 8/6/2015 7:03:21 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: mine blowout near Silverton, CO

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Brown, Jamesr" <[brown.jamesr@epa.gov](mailto:brown.jamesr@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 6, 2015 at 1:53:24 PM CDT  
**To:** "Restivo, Angela" <[Restivo.Angela@epa.gov](mailto:Restivo.Angela@epa.gov)>, "Crossland, Ronnie" <[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)>  
**Subject: FW: mine blowout near Silverton, CO**

Angela, Please contact NMED to inform them of this release and give them Sarah's contact information. Thanks,  
Jim

Sent from my Windows Phone

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**From:** [Bahrman, Sarah](#)  
**Sent:** 8/6/2015 12:38 PM  
**To:** [Atkins, Blake](#); [Brown, Jamesr](#)  
**Cc:** [Mohr, Mindy](#)  
**Subject:** mine blowout near Silverton, CO

Hi Blake and Jim –

I wanted to share the notice we got from our emergency response folks about a mine blowout yesterday afternoon near Silverton, CO, and a release of at least a million gallons of orange water to Upper Cement Creek and to the Animas River. Water is continuing to release from the mine at a slower rate.

As the Animas flows into New Mexico, I wanted you to be aware and have a chance to contact your counterparts in NM. The EOC here is trying to get better sense of travel times, but don't have a good sense of that yet. We will share more info as it becomes available.

Thanks,  
Sarah

Sarah E. Bahrman | Acting Director, Water Program | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 8

(p) 303.312.6243 | (c) 303.903.8515 | (f) 877.876.9101

**From:** Mylott, Richard  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 4:18 PM  
**To:** Bahrman, Sarah; Card, Joan  
**Subject:** FW: E-mail #2 Animal River: CDPHE Spills Tracking System Data Entry Form 2015-0492

Fyi. Email below refers to downstream water users notified.

**From:** R8 RRC  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Ostrander, David; Mylott, Richard  
**Subject:** E-mail #2 Animal River: CDPHE Spills Tracking System Data Entry Form 2015-0492

**From:** Schaffer - CDPHE, Tom [<mailto:tom.schaffer@state.co.us>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 1:39 PM  
**To:** Nedrow - CDPHE, Ann  
**Cc:** Michelle Thiebaud - CDPHE; David Kurz - CDPHE; Casey Kay - CDPHE; Heather Drissel - CDPHE; Carol Keever - CDPHE; Tony Waldron - DNR; Tom Kaldenbach - DNR; Russ Means - DNR; Rob Beierle - CDPHE; Edward Smith - CDPHE; Caren Johannes - CDPHE; Susan Newton - CDPHE; Kathryn Stewart - CDPHE; David Foster - CDPHE; Melynda May - DNR; Doug Krieger - DNR; John Alves - DNR; Jim White - DNR; Eric

Gardunio - DNR; Matt Thorpe - DNR; Renzo Delpiccolo - DNR; Becky Joyce; Lois MacKenzie; [norma@sjchealth.org](mailto:norma@sjchealth.org); [laila@sjchealth.org](mailto:laila@sjchealth.org); gregbrand; Elisabeth Lawaczeck; jaustin; [greg.stasinos@state.co.us](mailto:greg.stasinos@state.co.us); [troy.arnold@state.co.us](mailto:troy.arnold@state.co.us); jason king; jennifer robbins; david banas; dan miller; [bruce.holloman@state.co.us](mailto;bruce.holloman@state.co.us); Cory Stark - CDPS; david.osborn; Kevin Kuretich; Paul Eller - CDPS; Riley Frazee - CDPS; Trevor Denney - CDPS; [chuck.vale@state.co.us](mailto:chuck.vale@state.co.us); R8 RRC

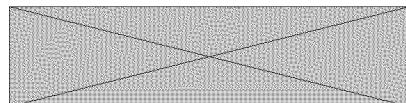
**Subject:** Re: CDPHE Spills Tracking System Data Entry Form 2015-0492

Just talked to John Sites with the Town of Silverton. They do not take out of that fork of Cement Creek, so they are ok. He did say that the creek is opaque orange. We have notified all other downstream users that we can identify, including Town of Durango, San Juan Basin Health, Glacier View (Cameron), Animas Water Co. and Colorado Rural Water (they are currently working on a watershed plan for that area and may have a mailing list of users).

Tom Schaffer, PE

Senior Field Engineer

Field Services Section



P 970-248-7152 | F 970-248-7198

222 S 6th Street, Rm 232, Grand Junction, CO 81501

[tom.schaffer@state.co.us](mailto:tom.schaffer@state.co.us) | [www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe](http://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe)

24-hr Environmental Release/Incident Report Line 877-518-5608

On Wed, Aug 5, 2015 at 1:13 PM, Nedrow - CDPHE, Ann <[ann.nedrow@state.co.us](mailto:ann.nedrow@state.co.us)> wrote:

Attached is a report for San Juan County, headed for Silverton, of a mine blowout and release of at least a million gallons of orange water to Upper Cement Creek and to the Animas River. Water is continuing to release from the mine at a slower rate.

DRMS requested that WQ assist with notification of downstream users, and Tom Schaffer has begun this process.

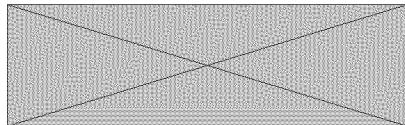
Thank you,

Ann

Ann Nedrow

Daytime Coordinator, Emergency and Incident Reporting Line

Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response



P 303.692.2709 | F 303.691.7811 |

4300 Cherry Creek Drive South, C-2, Denver, CO 80246

Ann.Nedrow@State.Co.Us | www.colorado.gov/

**24-hour Colorado Emergency and Incident Reporting Line: 1-877-518-5608**